

Implementation of LCP and NEC Directives in Poland

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Following the accession to the European Union Poland has agreed to adopt the European Community policy on the environment protection and sustainable development. Because the fulfillment of the resulted requirements is a serious technological and economical challenge to the country, hence, in some areas the process of adoption the EC legislation is postponed according to the accession treaty between the EU and Poland.

For the Polish heat and power generating industry being almost completely coal dependent the most important consequences result from the EU policy concerned to the reduction of pollutants emission. Actually, the principal meaning to the strategy of companies operating on the energy market have two EC directives, commonly called: LCP directive (2001/80/EC) and NEC directive (2001/81/EC) which established limits for certain pollutants emission for large power plants and national emission ceilings. In spite, the adoption of LCP and NEC Directives will be extended in time for Poland the resulted limits and ceilings caused anxiety and discomfort in the power and CHP energy sector.

In the paper consequences of the introduction of the LCP and NEC Directives to the Polish economy are discussed. Several scenarios to meet the challenge resulted from the new limits of emission of main pollutants and the security of energy supply are considered.